Serial No. 10/643,867

REMARKS

Claims 1-26 are pending and under consideration.

The rejections based on Otani are respectfully traversed. Using independent claim 1 as an example, this claim recites a protrusion on which a spindle motor and an optical pickup are mounted. The Examiner relies upon the guide 13 of Otani. However, nothing is mounted on this element.

Furthermore, claim 2 recites the cover covers the penetration so that a lower surface of the cover does not protrude to a lower surface of the lower case. The Examiner relies upon the sheathing 6 of Otani. However, this element does not cover any penetration. Instead, this element forms the boundaries of the notching 8 that the Examiner relies upon as corresponding to the penetration.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections is requested.

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: \Q

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